

Amendments To the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled claims at a later date.

1.-5. (cancelled)

6. (new) A signal processing unit, comprising:

    a mechanism for digital signal processing; and

    a control mechanism, wherein

        the mechanism for digital signal processing and the control mechanism are connected by a serial time multiplex connection.

7. (new) The signal processing unit according to claim 6, wherein the signal processing unit is used in a telecommunication system.

8. (new) The signal processing unit according to claim 6, further comprising a mechanism for storing data.

9. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 6, wherein the serial time multiplex connection is implemented as a PCM 30 system.

10. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 7, wherein the serial time multiplex connection is implemented as a PCM 30 system.

11. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 8, wherein the serial time multiplex connection is implemented as a PCM 30 system.

12. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 6, wherein the mechanism for digital signal processing is a digital signal processor and/or a mechanism for echo suppression.

13. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 7, wherein the mechanism for digital signal processing is a digital signal processor and/or a mechanism for echo suppression.

14. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 8, wherein the mechanism for digital signal processing is a digital signal processor and/or a mechanism for echo suppression.

15. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 9, wherein the mechanism for digital signal processing is a digital signal processor and/or a mechanism for echo suppression.

16. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 6, wherein the signal processing unit is implemented as a separate module.

17. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 7, wherein the signal processing unit is implemented as a separate module.

18. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 8, wherein the signal processing unit is implemented as a separate module.

19. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 9, wherein the signal processing unit is implemented as a separate module.

20. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 12, wherein the signal processing unit is implemented as a separate module.

21. (new) The signal processing unit according to Claim 16, wherein the signal processing unit is implemented as a separate module of an exchange of a digital switching system.